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Message Text

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41
ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

USIA-15 RSR-01 /043 W
---------- 025096
R 071151Z AUG 73
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5263
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: LA, US, CASC
SUBJECT: LAOS ENTRY FOR ABC NEWS STRINGER

REF: A. VIENTIANE 7609, 7621, 7639, 7647, 7726 - OCT 72
B. STATE 186508, OCT. 13, 1972, 154302
C. BANGKOK 12134

1. ABC NEWS STRINGER DONALD RONK HAS APPEALED BY TELEPHONE TO THE PRESS ATTACHE AND BY LETTER TO THE CHARGE FOR HELP IN OBTAINING PERMISSION TO RETURN TO LAOS TO WORK AS A NEWSMAN. HE ASSERTED, ALONG LINES REF C, THAT THA AUTHORITIES REFUTED HIM A RESIDENT VISA WHICH COST HIM HIS JOB WITH THE BANGKOK POST AND CONSEQUENTLY HE HAD TO LEAVE FOR MALAYSIA TO OBTAIN TOURIST VISA TO RETURN TO THAILAND WITHIN A WEEK. HE INDICATED THAT THAI'S ACTION IS CONNECTED WITH HIS REPORTING: FROM LAOS WHICH CAUSED EXPULSION IN OCTOBER 1972.

2. AS INDICATED REFTELS (A) RONK WAS EXPELLED FROM LAOS LAST OCTOBER 11 ON PERSONAL ORDERS OF PRIME MINISTER SOUVANNA PHOUMA FOR ALLEGING IN A WASHINGTONPOST ARTICLE THAT THE PRIME MINISTER BRIBED DEPUTIES. SOUVANNA HAD INTENDED TO EXPEL RONK TWO WEEKS EARLIER BUT WAS DIS-
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SUADED BY AMBASSADOR GODLEY. EXPULSION ORDER ON

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OCTOBER 11 APPEARED TO HAVE BEEN PROMPTED BY NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PRESSURE.

3. THE MISSION WAS NOT ABLE TO PERSUADE SOUVANNA TO RESCIND THE ORDER BUT ASKED AND OBTAINED 18 HOURS STAY OF EXPULSION TO ALLOW RONK SETTLE PERSONAL AFFAIRS. RONK APPRECIATED EMBASSY'S HELP AND SAID SO.

4. IN HIS LATEST CONTACT WITH THE MISSION, RONK INDICATED HE WOULD TONE DOWN HIS REPORTING FROM LAOS IF RE-ADMITTED TO THE COUNTRY. ON THIS BASIS, CHARGE WILL AT EARLIEST APPROPRIATE OCCASION RAISE WITH PRIME POSSIBILITY OF READMITTING RONK TO LAOS. WE WILL, OF COURSE, INFORM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK AND DEPARTMENT OF PRIME MINISTER'S REACTION.
DEAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973VIENTI00549
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: VIENTIANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730852/aaaabmcd.tel
Line Count: 77
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
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Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
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Review Date: 28 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28-Nov-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <20-Dec-2001 by golinofr>
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